



CASE AG/W-21739/P1/AC 438/RE

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10/31/03
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

RICHARD EVERETT COLE

APPLICATION NO: 10/013,989

FILED: DECEMBER 10, 2001

FOR: IRRIGATION METHOD

Group Art Unit: 3752

Examiner: Steven J. Ganey

RECEIVED

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUBSTITUTE PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The Office Action mailed on July 14, 2003 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on October 14, 2003. A petition for a one extension is hereby requested.

Applicant present the instant Substitute Preliminary Amendment for entry and consideration in order to place the instant reissue application in better condition for examination on its merits and for allowance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee due, or credit any overcharge, as a result of this Substitute Preliminary Amendment to Deposit Account No. 03-1935. Please amend the above-identified patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATIONS:

Please kindly amend column 1, lines 65-67 through column 2, and lines 1-7. The precise amendment to the paragraph included within the said above lines is on column 2, line 4.

The invention provides a method of irrigating a large crop area by pumping water through feed ducting and a mixing zone to a spray manifold supplying one or more spraying devices by which the water is sprayed onto the crop area, and in this method a substantially stable dispersion in a liquid of water soluble polymer particles is metered at a predetermined rate of 0.5 to [30] 50 ppm into the water at or before the mixing zone and the polymer particles are substantially completely dissolved into the water before the water is sprayed from the spraying devices.